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Warren whitewash: *Kennedy assassination writer claims Oswald did not fire shots*

by Robert Feldmann

Lee Harvey Oswald did not fire the shot that killed President Kennedy.

Oswald was not at the window at the sixth floor of the Texas Book Depository when Kennedy was killed.

Oswald's rifle was not used in the shooting.

Oswald was not involved in the assassination.

Harold Weisberg, author of six books on the Kennedy assassination, lashed out at the Warren Report and its Oswald-lone assasination theory before a packed house at the Student Union last night.

"You're going to see a president killed tonight," he said. "It is this major piece of evidence that the Warren Commission had to work around."

And this piece of evidence, he said, shows that Oswald did not fire the fatal shot.

Weisberg's evidence was the Zapruder film which showed Kennedy's head blown apart. Members of the audience gasped as the film played.

Weisberg argued that the force of the bullet that killed Kennedy caused him to recoil backward, and not slump forward as the Warrent Report claimed.

"All of history turned around when John Kennedy was assassinated," Weisburg said. "But the greater tragedy may have been the investigation that followed it.

"Our system of government was corrupted by those whose obligation was to look after our interests. We can rectify the mistakes some people are culpable of if enough citizens care about it."

Weisberg said the "ex parte" proceedings of the Warren Commission from which the press and public were excluded "left the most important stuff out." Dwelling at length on the "magical bullet" that inflicted seven wounds on both Kennedy and Texas Gov. John Connally, Weisberg attempted to document a systematic exclusion of witnesses and evidence that did not reflect the commission's "one assassin, three shots" thesis.

photo by Robin West

WEISBERG: "All of history turned around when Kennedy was assassinated. But the greater tragedy may have been the investigation that followed it."

President Ford, who participated in the language of the final Warren Commission Report has said he has seen no evidence to dispute its conclusions.

"He knew they didn't have all the evidence," Weisberg said. "A spectographic analysis of the bullets offered as evidence would have proven whether they passed through body tissues or not."

Time and again Weisberg told of his struggle to get the U.S. Government to release material classified as top secret.

"Top secret material is material that could start a war," Weisberg said. "Nothing I've read here tonight has not been withheld from the American public."

Much of the discussion centered about alleged links between Oswald and the CIA. The link was first reported by Texas authorities who brought the matter to the attention of the Commission.

"The Texas Court of Inquiry was run by Leon Jaworski," Weisburg said. "He was formerly a member of the CIA who handled money to CIA front organizations."

When a Texas reporter wrote a story linking Oswald with either the CIA or the FBI, Jaworski went to the editor of the paper (also a former CIA emplove) and got an affidavit to retract the reporter's story, he said.

In a question and answer session following the speech one member of the audience challenged Weisburg. "With similar time to prepare I could refute every point you raised here." tonight," he said.

He went on to say he had read 23 of the 26 volumes of the Warren Report, and urged the audience to read the report in its entirety before they made up their minds.

"There's no way to answer the question who killed the President on the basis of fact," Weisberg said, "but the President had started, in fact ordered, the liquidation of our military venture in Southeast Asia."